

Message Text

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71

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 SIG-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /078 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/RA:JAMATTSON:EO

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NEA/AFN:WWEISLOGEL

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AF/I:LSLEZAK

NEA/EGY:GBEYER

NEA/RA:SMHOLLY

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R 272100Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: PFOR, ELAB, PLO, LY, XF, XI

SUBJECT: ARAB LABOR CONFERENCE SUPPORTING PALESTINIANS

REF: TRIPOLI 1221 (NOTAL)

1. LIBYAN-SPONSORED "ARAB POPULAR CONFERENCE TO PROTECT AND SUPPORT PALESTINIAN ARAB REVOLUTION" SLATED FOR EARLY OCTOBER IN TRIPOLI (REFTEL) DOES NOT APPEAR AS BROADLY REPRESENTATIVE OF ARAB LABOR MOVEMENT AS PARTICIPANTS LIST ISSUED BY CONFERENCE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE WOULD SEEMINGLY SUGGEST. ABSENCE OF EGYPTIANS, IF UNDERSTANDABLE IN LIGHT OF CURRENT STATE OF LIBYAN-EGYPTIAN RELATIONS, IS SIGNIFICANT OMISSION SINCE ORGANIZED LABOR IN EGYPT IS LARGER THAN THAT OF OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES COMBINED AND SINCE EGYPTIANS CONTROL SECRETARIAT OF INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF ARAB TRADE UNIONS (EVEN THOUGH ICATU COULD BE NOMINALLY REPRESENTED IN GUISE OF PRESIDENT OF ITS CENTRAL COUNCIL, MAHMOUD HADID OF SYRIA) MOREOVER, GIVEN PRESENT ARAB WORLD POLITICAL CONJUNCTURE AND ONE-SIDED (LIBYA, IRAQ, PLO) COMPOSITION OF PREPARATORY COMMITTEE, TRADE- UNIONISTS OSTENSIBLY REPRESENTING SEVERAL OF THE COUNTRIES LISTED MAY WELL TURN OUT TO BE LEFTIST ELEMENTS FROM FRINGE OF NATIONAL LABOR MOVEMENTS OR EVEN FROM EXILE GROUPINGS RATHER THAN FROM MAINSTREAM OF NATIONAL LABOR CENTERS.
2. ASSUMING CONFERENCE TAKES PLACE AS SCHEDULED, DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE WHATEVER INFORMATION EMBASSY TRIPOLI COULD PROVIDE ABOUT IDENTITY (NAME AND ORGANIZATION) OF PARTICIPANTS AND ABOUT CONFERENCE CONCLUSIONS/RESOLUTIONS, INCLUDING RESULTS OF AGENDA ITEM ON U.S. INTERESTS IN ARAB WORLD. PRESENCE AT CONFERENCE OF PARTICIPANTS/OBSERVERS FROM NON-ARAB COMMUNIST LABOR ORGANIZATIONS (INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION FEDERATION REFERRED TO IN PARA 1 OF REFTEL MAY BE COMMUNIST-CONTROLLED WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS) SHOULD ALSO BE REPORTED. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PALESTINIANS, LABOR UNIONS, POPULAR SUPPORT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE239957
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JAMATTSON:EO
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760364-1290
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760915/aaaaamxm.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 TRIPOLI 1221
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <05 OCT 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARAB LABOR CONFERENCE SUPPORTING PALESTINIANS
TAGS: PFOR, ELAB, LY, XF, XI, PLO
To: TRIPOLI
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006